recommendations involves changes in organisational structure, procedures, training, design, technology etc. Necessary instructions have been issued to the agencies/Departments concerned to take suitable action on the recommendations of the Committee. Out of the 84 recommendations made in the report, 55 have been implemented so far. The flight safety records of IAF has shown positive improvement. During 1960s, the average losses were 40 aircraft per year which have been reduced to 22 aircraft per year in the 1990s.

Expenditure involved in the Kargil conflict

1397. SHRI S. AGNIRAJ: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total estimated expenditure involved in the Kargil conflict;

(b) what steps are being taken to modernise the weapons systems for high altitude warfares;

(c) whether Government propose to allocate additional funds to Defence sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) The total estimated expenditure incurred in Kargil Conflict is Rs. 1984 crores.

(b) Modernisation of weapon systems including those required for high altitude warfare is an ongoing process.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Supplementary Grants for Defence have already been sought.

Movement of armed forces of neighbouring countries

1398. SHRI SATISHCHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the movement of the armed forces of neighbouring countries;

(b) whether there is any threat to us; and

(c) what action Government have taken so far or propose to take?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The Government is aware of the position.

Suitable measures to meet any adverse situation continue to be taken. Presently, the situation is normal.

Construction of FRT

1399. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether construction of Fleet Replenishment Tanker (FRT) Aditya at Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd. has been completed and inducted into the navy after trials;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, by when it would be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) March, 2000.

Purchase of aircraft carrier from Russia

1400, SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to purchase Russia's 20 years old ailing aircraft carrier Gorshkov which would need millions of dollars for retrofitting;

(b) if so, the details thereof, stating the purchasing cost of the aricraft carrier and the estimated cost for its retrofitting; and

(c) what are the compulsions for buying an ailing aircraft carrier, requiring huge expenditure on its retrofitting?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) The Indian Navy needs an Aircraft Carrier to meet its operational requirements. The Government of the Russian Federation have offered to gift 'Admiral Gorshkov', an aircraft carrier, to India. It will require to be repaired, modified and modernised at the cost of the Indian Government before it can be inducted into service. The details in these regards are yet to be worked out.